

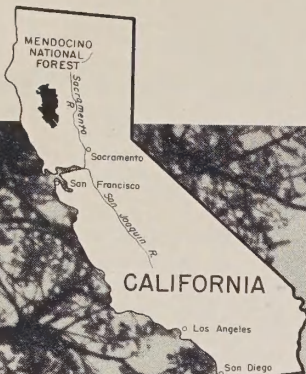
Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

1 reserve
F769Me
1951

MENDOCINO

NATIONAL FOREST



F-448516

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
2 U.S. FOREST SERVICE

2a California Region

July 1951

MENDOCINO National Forest extends for 70 miles along the summit of the Coast Range in northwestern California, from the Mad River–Eel River divide on the north, to Bartlett Mountain on the south. The forest's net area is 862,364 acres. From its lower elevations to elevations of about 4,000 feet, there are dense stands of chamise brush interspersed with open areas of grassland, known locally as glades. Above this are fine stands of pine and fir. Some of the higher elevations are rather open, with extensive areas of scrub white oak. Although the main summit of the Coast Range averages 5,000 feet, many peaks are more than 6,000 feet high. South Yolla Bolly, 8,003 feet, is highest.

The Mendocino is administered by a forest supervisor who has headquarters in the Federal Building at Willows, Calif. Its four ranger districts are each in charge of rangers located in or near the towns of Paskenta, Stonyford, and Upper Lake, and on Eel River 13 miles east of Covelo. Visitors are welcome at any of these offices and at fire lookout towers. The men there will be glad to tell you about roads, camp sites, trails, and other interesting details of the forest.

This forest, like other national forests, is a source of important natural resources—water, timber, forage, wildlife, and recreation—which are not locked up or allowed to stand idle. The main objectives of forest officers who manage these resources are protection and development. The many uses, such as irrigation, water power, logging, grazing, hunting, fishing, camping, and picnicking, are administered so that no single resource suffers through the use of the others. This system is called "multiple-use management," and there is a constant striving in the Forest Service to live up to the motto "The greatest good to the greatest number in the long run."

Receipts from timber sales, grazing permits, etc., are deposited in the United States Treasury. Twenty-five percent is then paid to the State for distribution to the counties in which the forest is located, to be used for schools and roads, and 10 percent is allotted the forest for its roads and trails. Thus, Mendocino resources contribute to local, State, and National prosperity, and help reduce the cost of management and free public services.

WATER

California's rapid growth in population and industry since 1941 is placing a heavier burden on its available supply of fresh water. It is generally believed that the only limit on California's growth is the limit of its water supply. This vital resource must come from watersheds—those areas of land from which water drains into streams. Several of California's watersheds lie within the boundaries of Mendocino National Forest.

Forest land that is protected and properly used makes an ideal watershed. The fall of rain and snow is broken by the vegetation, and water falling to the forest floor filters slowly through the litter and porous soil down into the underground flow that feeds streams, lakes, and reservoirs. This natural process produces an even flow of clean, usable water for many needs. When the process is interrupted through destruction or misuse of the watershed, the results are an uneven flow of water laden with sediment, and at times floods—occasionally disastrous ones. Watershed management is therefore one of the principal functions of the forest officers.

At the present time, two irrigation and reclamation reservoirs get their water from streams supplied by watersheds on the east slope of the Mendocino, and several additional reservoirs are proposed—all part of California's great Central Valley development. On the west slope, the watersheds are a source of supply for the important Lake Pillsbury reservoir, which in turn supplies water to the Potter Valley powerhouse on the Russian River. Because of this, the Russian River has more water for irrigation, and its value as a fishing and summer resort area has been enhanced. The continued use and prosperity of irrigated lands in the valleys, and the reclamation of other lands depends on the protection and wise use we give to our watersheds.

TIMBER

There is approximately 6 billion board feet of pine and fir timber in Mendocino National Forest. Trees along the roads and in camp grounds and wilderness areas are reserved from logging because of their scenic value. Elsewhere, however, their greatest values are as protective cover for watersheds and as the source of lumber—the forest product that sustains the lumber industry, provides many jobs, and contributes to the economy of local areas, the State, and the Nation.



F-441643

Fine timber for homes—jobs for men—part of our national strength.

Good forestry requires that mature, overcrowded, diseased or deformed trees be removed, and that a reserve stand of younger, healthy, fast-growing trees be left to protect the watershed and produce future crops of timber. In addition, timber sales are planned so that the rate of cutting in a given area will not be greater than the rate of growth; this makes it possible for the area to be perpetually productive.

Before a timber sale, forest officers select, mark, and advertise the timber to be sold. Lumber companies then submit their bids, and the highest bidder harvests the timber under the supervision of experienced foresters to insure that as little damage as possible is done to the remaining unmarked trees.

Timber sales from the Mendocino have totaled as much as 15 million board feet a year. Although a large part of the commercial timber on the forest is too far from logging roads to be of use at present, a start has been made on the building of additional roads which will reach this remote timber and bring it into production.

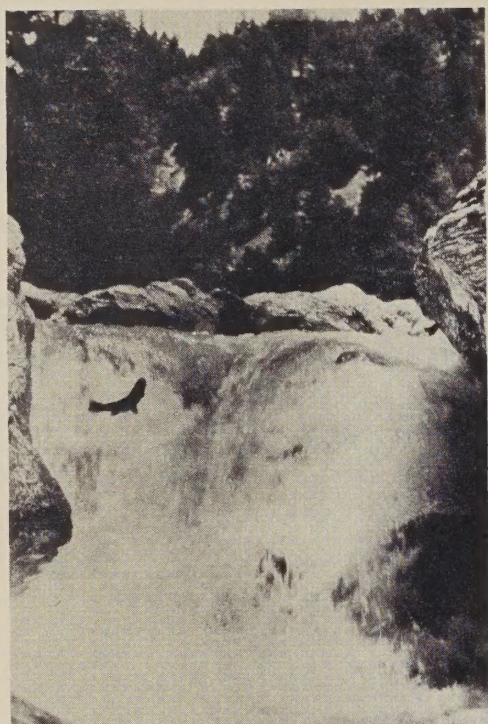
FORAGE

Forage for livestock is another valuable resource of Mendocino National Forest. In managing this resource, the Forest Service objective is to maintain and develop the range so that it will be continuously productive and make its contribution toward a stable and prosperous livestock industry.

Each summer 32 stockmen who have been issued grazing permits bring approximately 3,000 cattle to the Mendocino range, and they pay a small fee per animal for the privilege of using public-owned range. In the interests of building and maintaining a productive range, each grazing permit specifies the area of range a stockman will use, the number of cattle the area will support without damage to it, and the specific time the area may be used. The stockmen cooperate with forest officers in developing the range resources because they realize that better grazing conditions benefit all concerned.

HUNTING AND FISHING

This forest is one of the best-stocked deer areas in California and is therefore a favorite with sportsmen. The deer, Columbian black-tailed, are found in the brush as well as the timber. During hunting season the bucks seek the protection of dense cover, but does and fawns are commonly seen. An experienced hunter has little difficulty in getting his limit of bucks. In the winter or early spring the deer congregate in large



F-289445

Above. Columbian black-tailed deer grace the forest and provide pleasure for sportsmen.

F-204668

Left. A steelhead trout leaps up the falls of the Middle Fork of Eel River. Good fishing is part of the recreational resource—one more reason for protecting watersheds.



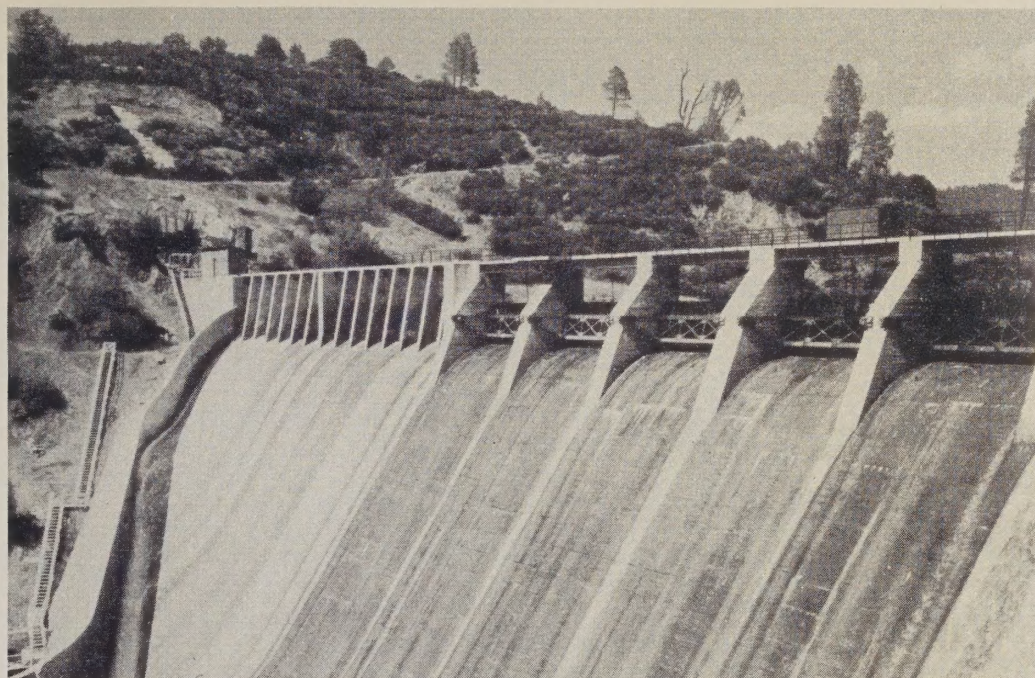
F-172656

These steers from nearby ranches graze under paid permit. Their owners benefit and another resource is put to its best use.

numbers in the glades where the sight of a herd is a delight to visitors. These animals are also excellent subject matter for camera enthusiasts.

Trout fishing is good in Thomes, Grindstone, and Stony Creeks, in the eastern part of the forest, and in South Eel River and its tributaries in Lake County. The best fishing in Thomes and Grindstone Creeks is reached from Log Spring road, accessible by automobile from Corning, Orland, and Willows. From this road a trip of about 4 miles by trail is necessary to reach either stream. For fishing in Stony Creek and its tributaries, the Diversion Dam and Red Bridge, west of Stonyford and accessible by automobile, are favorite camping sites. There are hotel accommodations at Stonyford. Fishermen can reach South Eel River and its tributaries by automobile from Upper Lake and Potter Valley.

The part of the Middle Fork of the Eel River that is within the forest affords good trout fishing. Steelhead can be found in the deep pools of the main stream and may be



F-401680

*The dam at Lake Pillsbury means much in the lives of the people who depend upon it.
The dam depends on the watersheds above.*

seen in the crystal-clear water of the river. Many of these large trout have been counted in a single pool at one time. This region is best reached by automobile to Covelo or to the public camp on the Middle Fork of Eel River, thence by a pack trip over Northfork Trail that passes through scenic Hell Hole Canyon.

MAIN ROUTES OF TRAVEL

The forest is reached from US 99W in the Sacramento Valley, and from the Redwood Highway, US 101, on the west. It is served also by the Southern Pacific Railroad on the east and the Northwestern Pacific on the west, and by a number of bus lines.

A forest highway, open all year, crosses the south end of the forest over Bartlett Mountain. It leaves State Highway 20 north of Lucerne and crossing Bartlett Mountain (elev. 4,000 ft.) connects with the highway again west of Williams on the western edge of Sacramento Valley. This route affords fine views of surrounding mountains.

Another through road crosses the forest from Covelo on the west to Sacramento Valley on the east. Where this road forks at the summit of the Coast Range, in Mendocino Pass, the north branch leads to Paskenta over Log Spring Ridge; the south branch follows the summit for 20 miles then descends to Alder Springs and Elk Creek. The north branch passes within a mile of Anthony Peak lookout station (elev. 6,963 ft.), a primary fire lookout which is open to visitors. Roads as far as Alder Springs and to Log Spring are in good condition by May 1, and the road through Mendocino Pass opens about July 1.

Gravelly Valley and Lake Pillsbury are accessible by roads from Upper Lake and Potter Valley. The road from Upper Lake, over Elk Mountain, offers a delightful trip. A road on a good grade up Little Stony Creek in Colusa County gives access to the area near Goat Mountain where there are many excellent camp sites. Other roads into the forest, with heavy grades, are Ball Rock road from Paskenta to Ball Rock; Ivory Mill road from Elk Creek to Bear Creek via Sheetiron Mountain; and Twin Valleys road from Bartlett Springs.

PUBLIC RECREATION AREAS

The Mendocino has a wide selection of public camp and picnic grounds with camping, picnicking, and sanitary conveniences. They are listed here according to the general area in which they are located.

WILLOWS-COVELO ROAD

Telephone.—50 miles west of Willows and 38 miles east of Covelo. 5 units. Trailer space. Supplies at Covelo. Elevation 6,000 ft.

Plaskett.—40 miles west of Willows and 48 miles east of Covelo. Two camp grounds: One south of Plaskett Meadows Fire Station and one a few hundred yards north. Attractive location. Good hunting country. Elevation 6,000 ft.

Board Tree.—35 miles west of Willows on a spur 3 miles off main road. Camp sign on main road. 7 units. Supplies at Willows. Cool summer camp. Good deer country. Elevation 6,000 ft.

Surveyors.—23 miles east of Covelo and 65 miles west of Willows. 3 units; trailer space. Supplies at Covelo. Elevation 4,000 ft.

Eel River Ranger Station.—13 miles east of Covelo. Adjoins Eel River Ranger Station grounds. 7 units; trailer space. Good camp for women and children while men are away on pack trips. Elevation 2,000 ft.

UPPER LAKE RANGER DISTRICT

Bear Creek.—18 miles north of Upper Lake via Elk Mountain Ranger Station and east on a spur, at foot of Snow Mountain. 12 units. Not advised for trailers. Supplies at Upper Lake. Good fishing early in season. Fine deer country. Elevation 2,500 ft.

Pogie Point.—30 miles north of Upper Lake on shore of Lake Pillsbury. Also reached via Ukiah, Potter Valley. 12 units; trailer space. Supplies at store on lake shore. Elevation 2,000 ft.

Thistle Glade.—24 miles north of Upper Lake via Elk Mountain Fire Station and east on spur road. 6 units. Not advised for trailers. Supplies at Upper Lake. Good fishing and hunting. Elevation 3,000 ft.

Lower Nye.—30 miles north of Upper Lake above Thistle Glade and near Copper Butte. 12 units. Not advised for trailers. Elevation 3,000 ft.

STONYFORD RANGER DISTRICT

Diversion Dam.—3 miles west of Stonyford on Big Stony Creek. (Improved by Colusa County Board of Supervisors in cooperation with Forest Service.) 5 units; trailer space. Supplies at Stonyford. Elevation 1,500 ft.

Old Mill.—15 miles southwest of Stonyford on Goat Mountain road. 12 units. Not advised for trailers. Supplies at Stonyford. Elevation 5,000 ft.

Trough Spring.—About 15 miles southwest of Stonyford near Old Mill camp ground on Goat Mountain road. Not advised for trailers. Supplies at Stonyford. Elevation 3,000 ft.

Red Bridge.—10 miles west of Stonyford, at forks of Stony Creek. 7 units. Not advised for trailers. Supplies at Stonyford. Popular with anglers. Elevation 2,000 ft.

Cedar Camp.—Near Goat Mountain about 20 miles west of Stonyford. 6 units. Not advised for trailers. Supplies at Stonyford. Elevation 5,000 ft.

Green Flat.—Near Goat Mountain about 20 miles west of Stonyford. 8 units. Not advised for trailers. Supplies at Stonyford. Elevation 5,000 ft.

Linger Longer.—West of Goat Mountain about 20 miles west of Stonyford. 2 units. Not advised for trailers. Supplies at Stonyford. Fine view of Goat Mountain. Good deer country. Elevation 4,500 ft.

Fir Root.—22 miles west of Stonyford in vicinity of Goat Mountain. 2 units; no trailers. Supplies at Stonyford. Elevation 4,000 ft.

PASKENTA RANGER DISTRICT

Whitlock.—12 miles west of Paskenta. 5 units; trailer space. Supplies at Paskenta. Elevation 5,000 ft.

Dead Mule Spring.—24 miles west of Paskenta. 2 units. Trailer space. Supplies at Paskenta. Elevation 5,000 ft.

Log Springs.—20 miles west of Paskenta. 1 stove; piped water. Trailer space. Supplies at Paskenta. Elevation 6,000 ft.

Lightning Spring.—28 miles west of Paskenta. 2 units; trailer space. Supplies at Paskenta. Elevation 5,000 ft.

Sugar Spring.—30 miles west of Paskenta. 2 units; trailer space. Supplies at Paskenta. Elevation 5,500 ft.

Wells Cabin.—35 miles west of Paskenta. 8 units; trailer space. Supplies at Paskenta. Good fishing and hunting camp. Elevation 5,500 ft.

MIDDLE EEL-YOLLA BOLLY WILDERNESS AREA

To preserve certain primitive parts of the national forests in California for the pleasure and enlightenment of present and future generations of Americans, the Forest Service has set aside a number of wilderness areas. One of these, the Middle Eel-Yolla Bolly Wilderness Area, covers about 203,000 acres of Government land at the head of the Middle Fork of Eel River in the Mendocino National Forest and in the vicinity of Yolla Bolly Mountain in the Trinity National Forest. This wilderness will not be developed by road building or any form of permanent recreational occupancy. The grazing of livestock is permitted.

It is an area of rolling mountains, characterized by scattered pine and fir interspersed with open glades and meadows. It is noted for good fishing and hunting, and is readily accessible by Forest Service trails. Highest peak in the area is South Yolla Bolly Mountain (Mount Linn) on the boundary between the Mendocino and Trinity forests.

OUTFITTING POINTS

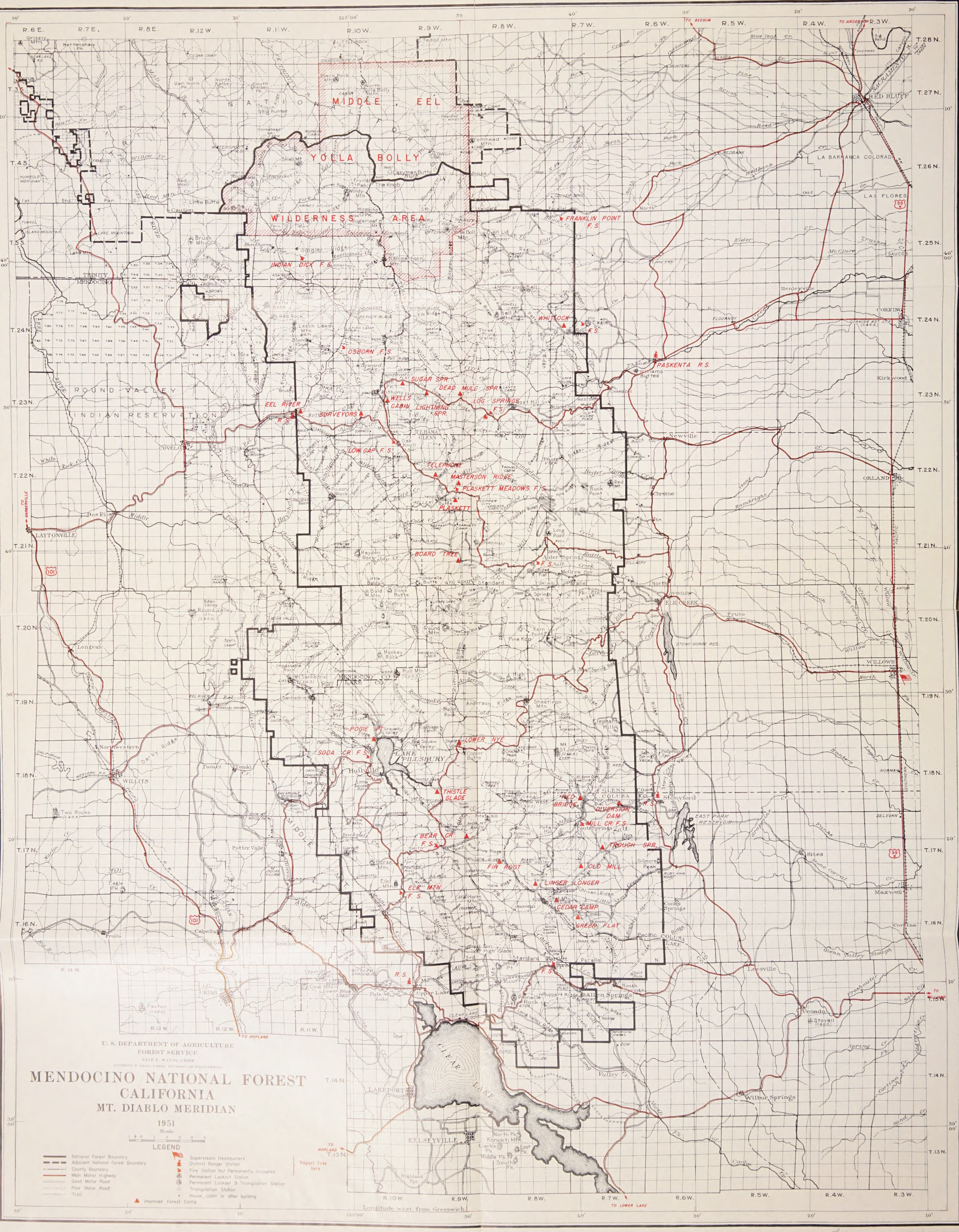
General supplies and gasoline may be purchased at any of the following places, and necessities for pack trips by trail into the more remote parts of the forest may be obtained at the places indicated. *Colusa County*: Stonyford (saddle and pack stock). *Glenn County*: Elk Creek (garage service). *Lake County*: Hough Springs; Bartlett Springs; Upper Lake (garage service). *Mendocino County*: Potter Valley (garage service, saddle and pack stock); Covelo (garage service, saddle and pack stock); Ham's Station; Hauck's Pack Station. *Tehama County*: Government Flat (saddle and pack stock); Paskenta (saddle and pack stock).

WHEN GOING ALONE.—Before starting on a trip alone into the mountains, leave word with someone about your proposed route and destination. Take what you would need for any emergency. A fish line and a few hooks, matches in a waterproof box, a compass, a little concentrated food, and a strong knife should always be carried. A gun may help in signaling distress.



F-379285

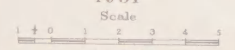
The peace and beauty of shady forest roads are worth protecting.



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
KYLE E. WATTS, CHIEF
ANTHONY J. DEAN, THIRD, DIVISION OF ENGINEERING

MENDOCINO NATIONAL FOREST CALIFORNIA MT. DIABLO MERIDIAN

1951
Scale



LEGEND

- National Forest Boundary
- Adjacent National Forest Boundary
- County Boundary
- Main Motor Highway
- Good Motor Road
- Poor Motor Road
- Trail
- Supervisors Headquarters
- District Ranger Station
- Fire Station Not Permanently Occupied
- Permanent Lookout Station
- Permanent Lookout B Triangulation Station
- Triangulation Station
- House, cabin or other building
- Improved Forest Camp

Report fires here

RULES FOR FOREST VISITORS

For the protection of lives and of forest resources, it is necessary that visitors to the Mendocino National Forest observe these rules:

1. During fire season smoking is prohibited except in camps, at places of habitation, in special posted areas, inside vehicles on roads, or while stopped in a cleared or barren area at least 3 feet in diameter. Butts, pipe heels, and matches must be extinguished before discarding. Watch for "No Smoking" and "Smoke Here" signs. When driving use auto ashtrays. State law prohibits throwing burning material from a moving vehicle.
2. Obtain a campfire permit before building any fire, including fire in stoves burning wood, kerosene, or gasoline. Permits are free and may be obtained from any forest officer.
3. Before starting a campfire, clear the flammable litter from a space 10 feet in diameter. Keep your fire small.
4. Never leave a campfire unattended. Do not abandon camp until your fire is dead out. Drown it, stir the embers, then drown it again.
5. In periods of high fire hazard, camping and camp or picnic fires may be restricted to posted camp grounds, and part or all of the forest may be closed to public use and travel. Watch for "Closed Area" signs.
6. Leave a clean camp. If there are no garbage pits or incinerators, bury or burn all garbage and refuse.
7. Do not pollute springs, streams, or lakes by unsanitary acts.
8. Observe the State fish and game laws.
9. Drive carefully on mountain roads.
10. Should you find a forest fire, put it out if you can. Otherwise, report it at once to the nearest forest ranger, local law officer, or telephone operator. Ranger stations are shown on the accompanying map.

WHAT TO DO WHEN LOST

1. Keep calm. Lack of mental control is more serious than lack of food, water, or clothing.
2. Stop, sit down, and try to figure out where you are. Use your head, not your legs.
3. If caught by night, fog, or storm, stop at once and make a camp in a sheltered spot. Build a fire in a safe place. Gather plenty of dry fuel.
4. Don't wander about. Travel only downhill, along streams or ridges.
5. If injured, choose a clear spot on a high point and make a distress signal.
6. Remember, the signal of distress in the outdoors is 3 signals of any kind, either audible or visible—3 shots, 3 whistles, or 3 flashes from a flashlight, etc. Searchers will answer with 2 signals. If your signals are not answered start a campfire and put green wood or damp leaves on it; Forest Service fire lookouts or aerial observers may see your smoke.
7. Don't yell, don't run, don't worry, and **DON'T QUIT.**



F-448200

This fire was man-caused. Valuable timber burned, a home for wildlife was destroyed, and an ugly, fire-scarred landscape was left as a reminder.